

Guided Reading Week 1 - Instructions

This document contains the Guided Reading for week one of your isolation period. There are two pieces to read and for each piece there will be two days of work to complete. Remember in school, Guided Reading is only 25 to 30 minutes. So make sure this is as much as you do at home!

In week 1, your two texts are:

- Ancient Egypt – The River Nile
- Ancient Egypt – General Facts and Information

For each text, there are the pages to read, some questions and the answers.

You don't need to print these sheets out if you don't need to. Feel free to write answers for the second day of work (outlined in Day 2 below) on each reading piece on any piece of paper.

For each text, use the following guidance as to what you need to do.

Day 1 - Reading the text and identifying features

Read the text carefully. We would suggest reading it twice through to be sure you have understood it.

If there are any words you are not sure of, ask the adult you are with if they can help you, look in a dictionary (if you have one) or use an online dictionary such as Kids WordSmyth (<https://kids.wordsmyth.net/we/>).

Once you have read it through, use your knowledge of features of a text to answer the following questions.

1. Find and copy the heading.
2. Find and copy all of the sub-headings
3. Is there an introduction? If yes, find and copy the first five words.
4. Are there any pictures with captions? If yes, how many?
5. Are there any diagrams? If yes, how many?
6. Are there fact boxes or boxes with extra information? If yes, how many?

Day 2 - Re-read the text and answer comprehension questions

To complete the day 2 task, you don't need to print these sheets out if you don't need to. Feel free to write answers for the second day of work on each reading piece on any piece of paper. Ideas for how to do this are below.

Re-read the text, to remind yourself about what you read about the previous day.

Answer the questions that follow it. All you need to do is simply answer the questions.

Ways you can answer questions without needing to print out the work

You can just do these on a sheet of paper as best as you can.

If you have to pick an answer from three options, simply write the correct answer.

If you have to match up statements, you could simply write what needs to go together as an answer.

Ancient Egypt

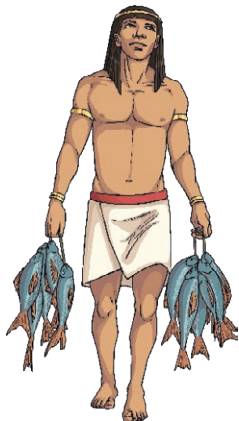
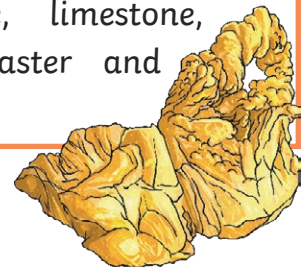
Important to survival in ancient Egypt was the River Nile. At 6,853km long, it is the longest river in the world, starting in the mountains of Tanzania and flowing through most of north-eastern Africa.

'Black Land'

In ancient times its soil was rich for growing crops, which fed and clothed the people who lived along the banks of the Nile. Some of the food grown was also swapped for other goods that could not be found or made in Egypt. The land flooded every year, leaving thick, black sand on the ground, which made it very good for growing plants. This was known as the 'black land'.

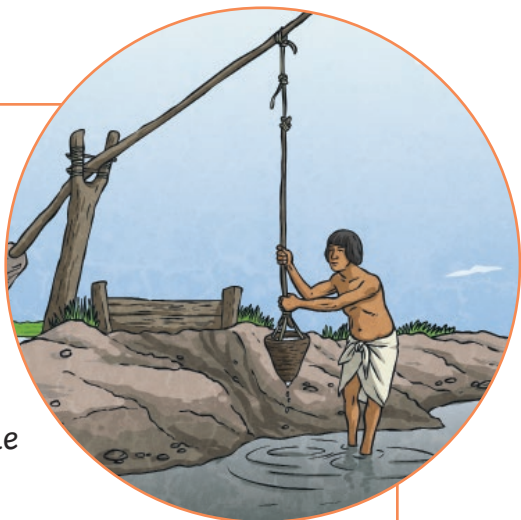
'Red Land'

Egyptians also had 'red land', which was the red, dry desert where nothing could grow. It protected the people of ancient Egypt from enemies because it was so difficult for invading armies to cross. The 'red land' was also full of precious metals and gems such as gold, copper, granite, limestone, amethyst, alabaster and turquoise.



Egyptian people relied on the water of the River Nile for drinking and washing. A useful crop living along the banks of the river was papyrus reeds. They were dried and used to make a type of paper. Travelling along the river were traders (people who sold goods), fishermen and sailors, moving materials such as stones for building pyramids.

Pharaohs enjoyed cruising up and down the river. Meanwhile, ordinary Egyptians created different ways of using the river water as much as possible. One important invention was the shaduf. This was designed to scoop water from the river and move it so that it could be sprinkled on the land where crops were growing.



Questions

1. How long was the River Nile?

2. What does the author mean by the word 'flowing'?

3. If you could choose to live in the 'black land' or the 'red land', which area would you choose to live in and why?

4. Why do you think rivers are so important to people's live?

5. Name two precious metals found in Egypt.

6. What is a shaduf?

Answers

1. How long was the River Nile?

It is 6.853km long.

2. What does the author mean by the word 'flowing'?

The author means moving steadily

3. If you could choose to live in the 'black land' or the 'red land', which area would you choose to live in and why?

Various answers possible.

4. Why do you think rivers are so important to people's lives?

Rivers bring water to people. Water is essential for humans, animals and plants to survive.

5. Name two precious metals found in Egypt.

Copper and gold.

6. What is a shaduf?

A shaduf is an object designed to scoop water from the river and move it so it could be sprinkled on the land where crops were growing.

Ancient Egyptians

The ancient Egyptians lived over 5,000 years ago from 3100 BC to 332 BC. They lived along parts of the River Nile (the longest river in the world) in Kemet, now known as Egypt.

What Jobs Did They Do?

There were a variety of different jobs in ancient Egypt, such as scribes, bakers, priests, doctors, craftsmen, merchants and many more. Inherited from their parents, many Egyptians worked on farms where they grew crops.

Farming was extremely important to the Egyptians and their farming techniques were **innovative**. This allowed them to grow lots of different grains and crops. It's believed they lived by the Nile as the yearly flooding because the soil was fertile for crops and being close to the river allowed them to use it for drinking water, washing and cleaning. Every year, the river Nile would rise and fall so the Egyptians dug channels and walls to divert flood water towards their fields for farming.



The Pyramids



Ancient Egyptians believed in an afterlife and that your body and possessions would be needed there. A process called **mummification** meant the bodies could be preserved and were buried in a tomb surrounded by all their worldly possessions.

These tombs are what we now know as the Pyramids. The more important the person, the bigger their tomb. **Hieroglyphics** would be drawn all around the tomb to tell the life story of the person who died and also to help guide them to the afterlife.

Pharaohs

Egyptian rulers were called pharaohs. They were seen as religious leaders and the bridge between the Gods and the Egyptians.

One of the most famous ancient Egyptian pharaohs was Tutankhamun. In 1922, his tomb was discovered by a group of explorers who couldn't believe how well the body had kept along with the number of treasures inside his tomb. Many of the items they found were made from, or covered in, gold and were there for Tutankhamun to take with him into the afterlife. The tomb was split into many different rooms with most of them being home to the objects, apart from the burial chamber which just held his **sarcophagus**.



Did You Know...?

Tutankhamun is also referred to as King Tut.

Gods

There were more than 2,000 gods in ancient Egypt. Many of them took human form but some were represented with heads of animals. The ancient Egyptians believed that life on Earth was just part of the eternal journey so everyone must live a good life in order to be guided by the gods through the afterlife. Each god represented an aspect of the Egyptian world, for example, Ra was the god of the sun and Anuket was the god on the River Nile.



Glossary

innovative	the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh.
mummification	the formal writing system used in ancient Egypt.
hieroglyphics	the formal writing system used in ancient Egypt.
sarcophagus	a stone coffin, decorated with inscriptions and sculptures.

Questions

1. The ancient Egyptians lived...? Tick one.

- ☐ from 5000 BC to 3100 BC
- ☐ from 332 BC to 5000 BC
- ☐ from 5000 BC
- ☐ from 3100 BC to 332 BC

2. What did the ancient Egyptians grow by the River Nile?

3. Why did the ancient Egyptians live by the Nile? Tick **three**.

- ☐ helped to fertilise the soil
- ☐ to learn how to swim
- ☐ for drinking water
- ☐ for washing and cleaning

4. What is mummification? Tick one.

- ☐ when you become a parent
- ☐ travelling to the afterlife
- ☐ being buried in a tomb with your possession
- ☐ the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh

5. Fill in the missing words:

These tombs are what we now know as _____. The more important the person, the bigger their _____.

6. Why were hieroglyphics drawn around the tombs? Tick **two**.

- ☐ to make them look rich and beautiful.
- ☐ to guide the dead to the afterlife.
- ☐ to practise their artwork.
- ☐ to tell the life story of the dead.

7. Why do you think the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb was so important?

8. Why was it important for ancient Egyptians to live a good life?

Answers

1. The ancient Egyptians lived...? Tick one.

- ☐ from 5000 BC to 3100 BC
- ☐ from 332BC to 5000 BC
- ☐ from 5000 BC
- ☒ **from 3100 BC to 332 BC**

2. What did the ancient Egyptians grow by the River Nile?

The ancient Egyptians grew grains and crops by the River Nile.

3. Why did the ancient Egyptians live by the Nile? Tick **three**.

- ☒ **helped to fertilise the soil**
- ☐ to learn how to swim
- ☒ **for drinking water**
- ☒ **for washing and cleaning**

4. What is mummification? Tick one.

- ☐ when you become a parent
- ☐ travelling to the afterlife
- ☐ being buried in a tomb with your possession
- ☒ **the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh**

5. Fill in the missing words:

These tombs are what we now know as **the pyramids**. The more important the person, the bigger their **tomb**.

6. Why were hieroglyphics drawn around the tombs? Tick **two**.

- ☐ to make them look rich and beautiful.
- ☒ **to guide the dead to the afterlife.**
- ☐ to practise their artwork.
- ☒ **to tell the life story of the dead.**

7. Why do you think the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb was so important?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think this discovery was important because Tutankhamun's body and possessions were in such good condition that they would have been able to learn lots of new things about him and the ancient Egyptians.

8. Why was it important for ancient Egyptians to live a good life?

Pupils' own responses, such as: The ancient Egyptians believed they had to lead a good life because life on earth was just part of their eternal journey. In order to be guided by the gods through the afterlife, the Egyptians had to be good people while living on earth.